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May 18, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Chao:

Reference is made to Jefferson County's application for discretionary grant funds under the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant. The project is located in an Opportunity Zone census tract in Jefferson County, Arkansas.

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) supports Jefferson County's application for the BUILD grant as a potential funding source necessary to complete this important project. This project will improve access to the Jefferson Springs Industrial Park, which is critical to its economic competitiveness. Proposed improvements have also been identified in the Arkansas State Freight Plan as well as the 2019-2022 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

If additional information is needed, please advise.

Sincerely,

Lorie H. Tudor, P.E.

Director

c: Highway Commission
Deputy Director and Chief Engineer
Assistant Chief - Administration
Assistant Chief Engineer - Planning
Program Management
Transportation Planning and Policy
Governmental Relations Office
Public Information Office
District 2